



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,968	03/02/2004	David L. Kaminsky	RSW920040009US1	2144

7590 02/23/2006

A. Bruce Clay
IBM Corporation
T81/503
3039 Cornwallis Road
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

EXAMINER

MANOHARAN, MUTHUSWAMY GANAPATHY

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2683

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/790,968	Applicant(s) KAMINSKY ET AL.	
	Examiner Muthuswamy G. Manoharan	Art Unit 2687	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

A series of singular dependent claims is permissible in which a dependent claim refers to a preceding claim which, in turn, refers to another preceding claim.

For purpose of examination, since the claims 2,3,4,5 and 6 cannot depend on the same claim, the Examiner has interpreted that each dependent claim 2-6 refers to claim 1.

Clarification and/or correction are requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-12 and 15-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Erb (US 2004/0142703).

Regarding claim 1, Erb teaches an apparatus comprising: a storage readable medium; wherein the storage medium comprises instructions for a processor to perform steps comprising: detecting an incoming telephone call (Abstract, line 2);

determining a plurality of conditions associated with a telephone (items 102 and 106 in Figure 7; Paragraph [0032-0033]);

comparing the conditions to a plurality of policies (Figure 4), each policy comprising a plurality of condition criteria and a telephone behavior instruction (Abstract, lines 1-9);

identifying a single policy within the policies, the single policy containing the condition criteria corresponding to the conditions (Paragraph [0009], lines 1-14);

and adjusting a telephone behavior according to the telephone behavior instruction for the single policy (paragraph [0035], lines 5-10).

Regarding claim 2, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein the policies further comprises: a policy priority number and wherein the policy priority number resolves any outcome conflicts between the policies ("importance Threshold", Figure 4).

Regarding claim 3, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein the policies are stored in a policy table according to the policy priority number (Figure 4; Paragraph [0033], lines 1-3).

Regarding claim 4, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 1 further comprising: the telephone; and wherein the storage medium is a memory within the telephone (Paragraph [0033], line 3).

Regarding claim 5, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 5 wherein the steps further comprises: allowing a user to define the policies using a policy creation program (Paragraph [0031], line 1; Paragraph [0038], lines 1-2).

Regarding claim 6, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein one of the condition criteria is a location criterion; and wherein the location of the telephone is determined using a GPS network (Paragraph [0037], lines 7-8).

Regarding claim 7, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 6 wherein one of the condition criteria is a location criterion; and wherein the location of the telephone is determined using triangulation (Paragraph [0010], lines 10-12).

Regarding claim 8, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 6 wherein one of the condition criteria is a context criterion (Paragraph [0040], lines 3-5) and wherein the context is determined by accessing a PDA program stored on the telephone ("calendar tool", Paragraph [0040]).

Regarding claim 9, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 6 wherein one of the condition criteria is a caller criterion; and wherein the caller identity is determined by analyzing the caller ID data associated with the incoming telephone call (Paragraph [0032], lines 3-7).

Regarding claim 10, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 6 wherein one of the condition criteria is a caller criterion (Paragraph [0032], lines 4-6); and wherein the caller identity is determined by analyzing the caller ID data associated with the incoming

telephone call (Paragraph [0032], lines 4-5) and accessing a PDA program stored on the telephone (paragraph [0032], line 7).

Regarding claim 11, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 6 wherein the condition criteria comprise a location criterion and a context criterion (Paragraph [0040], lines 1-9).

Regarding claim 12, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 6 wherein the condition criteria comprise a location criterion and a caller criterion (Figure 7; Figure 4; Paragraphs [31-33]).

Regarding claim 15, Erb teaches a method comprising: installing a telephone control program on a storage medium (Paragraph [0031], lines 1-2). The other limitations of the Claim 15 are rejected for the same reasons as set forth in the claim 1.

Claim 16 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in the claim 2.

Regarding claim 17, Erb teaches the method of claim 15 wherein the policies further comprises: a policy priority number ("importance threshold", Figure 4); and wherein the policies are stored in a policy table according to the policy priority number (Figure 4; Paragraph [0033], lines 1-3).

Claims 18-29 are rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claims 4-14, respectively.

Regarding claim 29, Erb teaches an apparatus comprising: means for detecting an incoming telephone call (Abstract, line 2); means for determining a plurality of conditions associated with a telephone (items 102 and 106 in Figure 7; Paragraph [0032-0033]); means for comparing the conditions to a plurality of policies (Figure 4), each policy comprising a plurality of condition criteria and a telephone behavior instruction (Abstract, lines 1-9); means for identifying a single policy within the policies, the single policy containing the condition criteria corresponding to the conditions (Paragraph [0009], lines 1-14); means for adjusting a telephone behavior according to the telephone behavior instruction for the single policy (paragraph [0035], lines 5-10); wherein the policy priority number resolves any outcome conflicts between the policies ("importance Threshold", Figure 4); wherein the policies are stored in a policy table according to the policy priority number (Figure 4; Paragraph [0033], lines 1-3); means for allowing a user to define the policies using a policy creation program (Paragraph [0031], line 1; Paragraph [0038], lines 1-2); and wherein the storage medium is a memory within the telephone (Paragraph [0033], line 3).

Regarding claim 30, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 29 wherein the location of the telephone is determined using a GPS network (Paragraph [0037], lines 7-8).

Regarding claim 31, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 29 wherein the location of the telephone is determined using triangulation (Paragraph [0010], lines 10-12).

Regarding claim 32, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 29 wherein the context is determined by accessing a PDA program stored on the telephone ("calendar tool", Paragraph [0040]).

Regarding claim 33, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 29 wherein the caller identity is determined by analyzing the caller ID data associated with the incoming telephone call (Paragraph [0032], lines 3-7).

Regarding claim 34, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 29 wherein the caller identity is determined by analyzing the caller ID data associated with the incoming telephone call (Paragraph [0040], lines 3-5) and accessing a PDA program stored on the telephone (paragraph [0032], line 7).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Erb (US 2004/0142703).

Regarding claim 13, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 6 wherein the condition criteria comprise a context criterion (Paragraph [0040], lines 1-5). Erb also teaches a caller criterion (Paragraph [0032]). He also teaches condition criteria involving more than one criterion (context and location, Paragraph [0040]; caller and location, Paragraphs [31-33]). Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the condition wherein the condition criteria comprise context criterion, and a caller criterion. This modification gives additional flexibility to the user of the telephone.

Regarding claim 14, Erb teaches the apparatus of claim 6 wherein the condition criteria comprise a location criterion, and a caller criterion (Paragraph [0031-0033]). Erb did not teach specifically the condition criteria comprise a location criterion, a context criterion, and a caller criterion. However, Erb teaches in another embodiment, the apparatus of claim 6 wherein the condition criteria comprise a location criterion, and a context criterion (Paragraph [0040], lines 1-9). Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to use the condition criteria comprise a location criterion, a context criterion, and a caller criterion. This modification gives additional flexibility to the user of the telephone.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Muthuswamy G. Manoharan whose telephone number is 571-272-5515. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid can be reached on 571-272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



LESTER G. KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER